

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~

COUNTRY East Germany ~~REPORT~~

TOPIC Loadings and Unloading in Eberswalde 25X1

Fall Exercise of the 25th Tank Div 25X1

EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTE 25X1

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 11 October 1955

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS This is UNEVALUATED Information 25X1

1. At 1025 on 22 September 1955, a shipment of 26 amphibious vehicles, 5 boxcars with soldiers and an undetermined number of trucks left the Eberswalde railroad station and went toward the north.
2. On 22 September, at least 32, presumably 49 full-track large amphibious vehicles from the Schuetzen Kaserne (4342) were entrained at the Eberswalde railroad station. On 22 September, 8 tanks¹ and, on 23 September, 18 tanks were seen at the Eberswalde railroad station.² 25X1
3. Large troop movements toward Neue Kaserne northwest of Vogelsang (4823) were observed during the night of 21/22 September. All roads to the installation were heavily rutted by tank tracks. A column of approximately 50 trucks with soldiers entered the installation from a southern direction. On 23 September, the installation was occupied to capacity. On 22 September, IL-28s were observed flying over the Templin training grounds throughout the day.² 25X1
4. At 0630 on 19 September, tank and truck columns passed through Templin en rout 25X1 from the direction of Prenzlau and went toward Hammelspring. At 1500 on 22 September, 6 sedans and 1 truck passed through Templin. They came from the direction of Eberswalde or Prenzlau and went to Camp Kannenburg. The sedans were occupied by several high-ranking officers. The vehicles were marked by white pennants. The following unloadings were observed at the Templin railroad station between 24 and 27 September:
 - 24 September. At 2200, a shipment with 14 tanks and 6 AA guns of at least 85 mm, which arrived from the direction of Eberswalde. The tanks had a box-like, presumably wooden, superstructure, were covered by tarpaulins and had a chassis similar to that of a T-34. At 1500, a shipment with 7 T-34 tanks, 3 trucks, 1 field kitchen and 50 soldiers, which arrived from the direction of Eberswalde or Prenzlau. The vehicles left toward Hammelspring.
 - 25 September. At 1130, a shipment with 14 tanks, which arrived from the direction of Eberswalde. The tanks were of the same type as those unloaded at 1100 on 24 September.
 - 26 September. At 1600, a shipment with 4 x 160-mm mortars, 10 trucks and some 60 soldiers, which had arrived from the direction of Eberswalde or Prenzlau. The vehicles left for Camp Kannenburg.

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27 September. At 1700, a shipment of 4 x 37-mm AA guns, 38 trucks and approximately 600 soldiers, which arrived from the direction of Eberswalde or Prenzlau. The unit left toward Hammelspring.

After 1130 on 23 September, Il-28s continually attacked targets in the area of the Templin training grounds.²

5. At 0730 on 29 September, 17 track-laying amphibious vehicles, 2 three-axle amphibious vehicles and 1 truck with field kitchen were unloaded at the Eberswalde railroad station. Two of the track-laying amphibious vehicles carried one small two-axle amphibious vehicle each. The small amphibious vehicles occupied about two-thirds of the large amphibious vehicles.³

1. Comment. According to available information, 2 shipments with a total of about 40 to 50 full-track amphibious vehicles of the unidentified amphibious unit from the Schuetzen Kaserne (4342) had been loaded. The tanks may have belonged to the 51st (?) Mtrcl Regt of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army. There were no indications that the tanks belonged to the amphibious units.

3 of the 4 shipments observed went to Altengraben in the maneuver area of the Third Shock Army. For information on the fourth shipment see Comment 2.

2. Comment. it can be assumed that the 25th Tank Div started fall maneuvers at the Templin training grounds on 22 September. Elements of the division from Prenzlau were transferred to the exercise area by road and rail. Reports on transportation furthermore tend to indicate that army troops from Eberswalde also participated in the exercise, although the arrival of these units on 26 and 27 September appears rather late. It cannot yet be determined whether the shipments between 23 and 25 September were troop trains or if T-54 tanks were shipped to the 25th Tank Div.

3. Comment. It is assumed that a shipment which had been entrained on 22 September, returned to its installation. Since the maneuvers of the Third Shock Army started only in late September, elements of the amphibious unit, which participated in the exercises of the 25th Tank Div, may have been involved. If this assumption is correct, the exercise may have lasted from about 22 to 28 September.

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